

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 170, Benjamin Harris, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell, Sheldon Whitehouse, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Catherine Cortez Masto, Christopher A. Coons, Ron Wyden, Margaret Wood Hassan, Edward J. Markey, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Angus S. King, Jr.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Benjamin Harris, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 79, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 452 Ex.]

YEAS—79

Baldwin	Grassley	Portman
Barrasso	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Risch
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Brown	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cardin	King	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Sinema
Casey	Leahy	Smith
Cassidy	Lee	Stabenow
Collins	Luján	Tester
Coons	Lummis	Thune
Cornyn	Manchin	Toomey
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Cramer	McConnell	Warner
Crapo	Menendez	Warnock
Daines	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murphy	Wicker
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Fischer	Ossoff	Young
Gillibrand	Padilla	
Graham	Peters	

NAYS—20

Blackburn	Hawley	Rubio
Boozman	Hoeben	Scott (FL)
Braun	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Ernst	Moran	Tuberville
Hagerty	Paul	

NOT VOTING—1

Rounds

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 79, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Benjamin Harris, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Risch
Rubio
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)

Shelby
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis

Tuberville
Young

NOT VOTING—1

Rounds

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 59, the nays are 40.
The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask consent to speak for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF JONATHAN DAVIDSON

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I am coming to the floor to talk about a nominee that we have before us this afternoon, who is nominated by President Biden to be the Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury for Legislative Affairs.

He is a person who is well known to this Chamber. He spent roughly 20 years working in the Senate. He started out as Senator Paul Sarbanes' body man years and years and years ago and became chief of staff for Senator Sarbanes when Senator Sarbanes was the chair of the Banking Committee. He worked in the House for Representative Sarbanes, was chief counsel to Senator WARNER, and then came to my office and was my chief of staff.

His name is Jon Davidson, and he worked for the people of Colorado and for the country for about 10 years in that role. When he came over as my chief of staff, it was very shocking to me that he was willing to do it because he had a good job and he was doing really well for Senator WARNER. But it gave him the chance to run a Senate office, and he did an extraordinary job not just because of his understanding of policy and his understanding of politics—a lot of people have that around this place—but also his understanding of human nature and his belief that in all of us, even those of us who are Senators, there can be a gem of goodness in us to be found and to be brought along and to be grown. And that was true not just for me, but for the entire staff.

He was an incredible mentor to probably hundreds of people who worked for me over the years, both in the State of Colorado and in here. He was an extraordinary manager who led with integrity and discipline and drive.

And while I was extremely sorry to lose him, I wasn't at all surprised that President Biden and the Secretary of the Treasury wanted him at Treasury, where he could take what he had learned on Capitol Hill and apply it at

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 337, Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell, Sheldon Whitehouse, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Catherine Cortez Masto, Christopher A. Coons, Ron Wyden, Margaret Wood Hassan, Edward J. Markey, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Angus S. King, Jr.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 59, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 453 Ex.]

YEAS—59

Baldwin	Heinrich	Romney
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Sasse
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Burr	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Capito	Leahy	Sinema
Cardin	Luján	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Toomey
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wicker
Hagerty	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—40

Barrasso	Cruz	Johnson
Blackburn	Daines	Kennedy
Blunt	Ernst	Lankford
Boozman	Fischer	Lee
Braun	Graham	Lummis
Cassidy	Grassley	Marshall
Cornyn	Hawley	McConnell
Cotton	Hoeben	Moran
Cramer	Hyde-Smith	Paul
Crapo	Inhofe	Portman

a moment when the country urgently needs leadership like the leadership that Jon Davidson can provide.

Just one example: You know, Mr. President, I ran a not very well noticed campaign for President the last time we were having a campaign for President, and I ran it on the idea that we could cut childhood poverty almost in half in this country by adopting the changes that I had proposed to the child tax credit with Senator BROWN from Ohio and Senator BOOKER from New Jersey and then-Senator Harris from California.

But, like with anything else a Senator does, the work is actually done often by the members of that Senator's staff. And in the case of Jon, the vision also came from him and from Charlie Anderson—another staff member that I had—and the entire team that worked together not just for that Presidential campaign but to make sure that, in the wake of it, that could actually become law.

And because of Jon's tenacity, among other things, and his willingness to be able to raise this issue again and again and again in rooms full of staff but also in rooms full of Senators, those changes in the child tax credit are now the law of the land, and we are cutting childhood poverty in this country almost in half this year. It is one of the signature accomplishments, in my mind, of the Biden administration. It is one that I hope that we are going to be able to continue.

So, obviously, I was extremely sad to see him go. I was very, very pleased to see the broad bipartisan support that the cloture vote on his nomination engendered. And I know great things are ahead for Jon and for the country because of his leadership.

He knows, I think, that he has got an open invitation to come back anytime that he wants to.

Before I leave the floor, I also want to say a special word of gratitude to his dad Garber, who lives in Baltimore; and to his wife Erin; and to his children Leo, Mia, and Serena—all of whom have been part of the efforts that we have undertaken on behalf of the people I represent in Colorado over the last decade and on behalf of the United States of America.

These opportunities for public service that all of us have are ones that can't be accomplished without our families; without, I know in the case of Jon, the mentorship that he received from his father, who himself was a distinguished public servant in the United States, and also the support of his family.

So I am filled with great happiness today that we are going to have a great, positive, bipartisan vote on Jon Davidson, as it should be. And perhaps that is a sign of things to come when the kind of quality of somebody like Jon Davidson is recognized in a way that it causes us to act not in a partisan way but in a bipartisan way, to embrace his public service but also a vision for the country that can move us forward.

So congratulations to Jon Davidson. Congratulations to his family, to the Department of the Treasury, and to the United States of America.

With that, Madam President, I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA). Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:12 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATION OF JEFFREY M. PRIETO

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I rise today in support of the confirmation of Jeffrey Prieto to serve as general counsel of the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Prieto was reported favorably from our committee, the Environment and Public Works Committee, on a bipartisan vote of 12 to 8.

Yesterday, I received an interesting letter from a bipartisan group of four former EPA general counsels representing the Trump administration, the Obama administration, and the administrations of George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. They were basically conveying the same message: They support the confirmation of Jeffrey Prieto to serve as general counsel of the Environmental Protection Agency. That doesn't happen every day. We get letters of support from nominees, different parties, different Agencies from time to time, but to have four former EPA general counsels from two Republican administrations of late and two Democratic administrations all in support of the nomination of Jeffrey Prieto to serve in this important role—that got my attention, and I hope it gets the attention of all of my colleagues.

Those who wrote to us, the four who wrote to us, very correctly point out that Mr. Prieto is, and I quote—these are their words, not mine—“uniquely qualified for the position of General Counsel for the EPA.

They go on to say:

Mr. Prieto has been a longstanding champion of human health and Environmental protection for all Americans.

The letter continues:

He is fair, just, and ethical. He will make decisions strictly based on the facts, science, and the law. We expect he will [be] ready to serve on day one.

Not surprisingly, I completely agree with their sentiments. Having come to know Mr. Prieto following his nomination by President Biden, I believe he will be an outstanding EPA general counsel. He comes from a patriotic Latino family with a proud history of military service. He has the intellect,

temperament, and experience to serve in this important role.

Six years ago, this body saw fit to confirm Jeffrey Prieto unanimously for the same position, general counsel, at the Department of Agriculture. We should confirm him again today for this post. He was the right choice then; he is the right choice now. I encourage our colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read the following:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 360, Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Charles E. Schumer, Jacky Rosen, Thomas R. Carper, Tina Smith, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Richard Blumenthal, Tammy Duckworth, Gary C. Peters, Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Jeanne Shaheen, Angus S. King, Jr., Christopher A. Coons, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Ben Ray Lujan, Brian Schatz.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

(Thereupon, Mr. SCHATZ assumed the Chair.)

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 454 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Baldwin	Cortez Masto	Hyde-Smith
Bennet	Cramer	Kaine
Blumenthal	Duckworth	Kelly
Booker	Durbin	King
Brown	Feinstein	Klobuchar
Cantwell	Gillibrand	Leahy
Cardin	Hagerty	Lujan
Carper	Hassan	Manchin
Casey	Heinrich	Markey
Collins	Hickenlooper	Menendez
Coons	Hirono	Merkley